

First place essay, intermediate category

Serving His Students

My teacher, Mr. DeSylvester, is an excellent leader. He's a hard worker and sets a good example for us. He uses every minute of our school day to teach us. Between our classes, lunch periods and recesses, he teaches us interesting facts about history or quizzes us for tests. He's teaching us to be responsible and make good use of our time. He expects the same out of all of us — our best. He wants us to be proud of the work we do. He treats us all equal and fair and with respect. He expects us to do the same. He gives a lot of his time to his students. Mr. DeSylvester is always at school before anyone else. He even took time to coach the flag football team for several years. He taught us to use good sportsmanship. He taught us to have good sportsmanship in every day life, not just on the field. My teacher has been an important man in many people's lives. He hasn't just taught his students the subjects that every 5th grader learns, but also how important it is to be an honest, respectable and responsible person. His leading his students in these ways is forming them into better adults. I'm thankful for his example. I hope that he stays with Franklin Northeast until he retires. That way more children will be able to benefit from all his hard work.

Olivia Wilson, 5th grade, Franklin Northeast, Mesa

Second place essay, intermediate category

"It's hard to beat a person who never gives up." By Babe Ruth.

The person I believe shows leadership is my mom. My mom is an amazing person because she takes care of animals, and teaches our family, and works at a nursing home.

My mom really cares about animals. She is a leader because she cares for sick, stray, and old animals. She takes the animals in and nurses them back to health.

She also shows leadership by helping my family and our world. The way she helps our world is she picks up the trash and gives money to the homeless. The other way she shows leadership is that she helps me and my family with problems. She helps me, my brothers, and sister with our home work.

Another way she shows leadership is that she works at a nursing home. She takes care of young, hurt, old, and sick. She also keeps them company. She talks to them, feeds them, and bathes them.

This is my mom. She's nice, brave, smart, cool, and helpful every day. The reason she's helpful is that she teaches me and you that any body can be helpful doesn't matter if you are young, old, or shy you can help the world by picking up after yourself every day. Can you be helpful every day?

Kris Enos, 5th grade, Madison Elementary, Mesa

Third place essay, intermediate category

My aunt is a great leader because she went to Africa and gave the children crayons, markers and color pencils. The children in Africa were happy because my aunt gave the children crayons, markers and color pencils. While she was there she slept in a tent and she got to see lions and a lot of other animals.

Tatum Cork, 3rd grade, Madison Traditional Academy, Phoenix